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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO. 25X1

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DATE DISTR. 12 Sept 1955

SUBJECT Object 568K at Kuchino, and MVD Laboratory at Marfino

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FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

COUNTRY: USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT: Object 568K Near Kuchino and MGB Laboratory, Marfino

DATE OF INFO.: September 1951

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PLACE ACQUIRED:

DATE OF REPORT: 20 October 1954

DATE ACQUIRED:

REFERENCES:

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1. Object 568K was located in the village of Kuchino, southeast of Moscow and, because of its location, was commonly referred to as "Kuchino". Object 568K consisted of a settlement, approximately 200 by 150 meters in size, surrounded by a brick wall two and one-half meters high. Inside the brick wall was a fence. The area between the wall and the fence was off limits. Within the compound were several stone buildings which contained laboratories, defector interrogation offices, a cafeteria and sleeping quarters for prisoners who worked in the laboratories. The official address was Object 568K[1].

2. The area was guarded by the MGB troops from the Special Camp Department. [illegible] were red hat bands and shoulderboards. Rank insignia was the same as that worn by the Soviet army.

3. Object 568K was established by the MGB[2] to provide laboratory space for [illegible] developmental work carried on by prisoners. Very little original research was [illegible]. The majority of the assignments were repetition or duplication of work which had been done previously outside the USSR. The results of the original work had never been published in the originating country.

4. All personnel at Object 568K were prisoners except the supervisory personnel who were free Soviets. In September 1951, approximately 650 prisoners were working in the laboratories. Those included Poles, Spaniards, Austrians, Germans, Soviets and other nationalities. 25X1

5. One group of prisoners were printing circuits on ceramics. [redacted] The ceramics were probably for exhibition purposes only. Another group was attempting to develop a wire for wire recorders. Copper wire with a diameter of 0.15 millimeter was electroplated with various alloys of nickel and cobalt in an effort to produce a wire with the greatest possible coercive force for use in a recorder that could run at a high speed. One of the most satisfactory alloys consisted of approximately 80 percent nickel. The wire was satisfactory at a speed of five centimeters per second, the slowest speed on the turntable of the testing recorder. The work was [illegible] in progress in September 1951. 25X1 25X1

6. Another MGB laboratory camp was known as Marfino. This may have been the [illegible]

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village in which the camp was located. The Marfino camp was approximately 25 kilometers from Kuchino. Personnel were often transferred from Kuchino to Marfino and from Marfino to Kuchino. Much more secrecy was attached to the work at Marfino and personnel from there did not discuss their work because they feared their repatriation might be jeopardized. One group at Marfino worked with plastics. Another group was attempting to copy a German tape recorder for monitoring telephone conversations. A third group was producing small transmitters which would operate in the 10-50 meter or 3-30 megacycle range. The transmitters were for the use of agents and were copies of German models.

7. The following prisoner-personnel were employed at Kuchino:

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